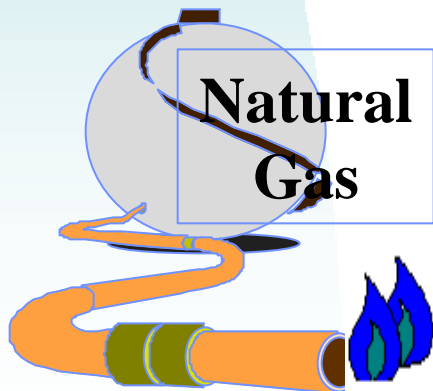




National Center for Utilities Management -NCUM-



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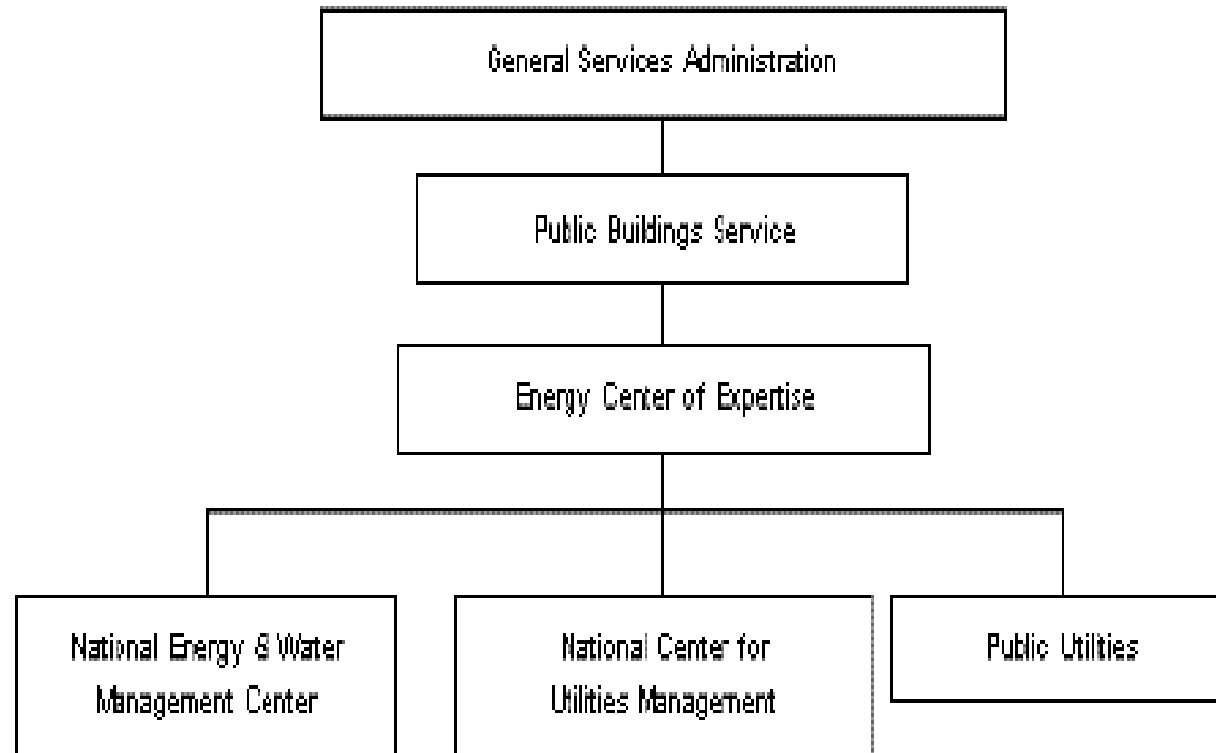
Third Party Natural Gas
Acquisition Program
through GSA,
National Center for Utilities
Management
(NCUM)

NCUM Profile

- An energy management program specializing in providing federal facilities with natural gas and energy management services. In 1984, NCUM began providing federal facilities with an energy management program to reduce costs.
- Utility Specialists monitor energy usage and communicate with contract suppliers, local utility companies and federal and state regulatory entities to ensure that customers receive the best rate available.
- The staff does constant administering of your energy resource procurement along with verifying all invoices from your local distribution company and supplying contractor.
- **Our mission is to provide customers with cost effective energy resources and develop innovative solutions for the changing utility industry.**

ORGANIZATION CHART

The National Center for Utilities Management (NCUM) is a GSA program developed to deliver services in the energy commodity and demand services industry for the benefit of all federal agencies.



How to form a partnership with NCUM:

- When a customer first contacts NCUM ,they will be asked to provide 12 months of gas invoices to establish usage patterns, applicable rate schedules, gas price from current source, and to compare NCUM contractor gas costs to their current supplier's rate.
- When this information is received by the NCUM, the customer's local distribution company is contacted to establish if third party gas can be transported under available rate structures.
- When a customer is made aware of what is available from NCUM under our natural gas contract, they decide on an index based price structure or a fixed gas price. The customer is informed of their ability to cancel the NCUM contract with a 30- day written notification and they are made aware of billing and administrative options and alternatives.

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■ When the customer decides to join the NCUM program:

- ◆ NCUM Utility Specialists will assist the new customer on all documentation preparations and submissions.
- ◆ All contractual papers for the finalization of the third party gas delivery will be prepared by the NCUM contracting officer, the NCUM supplier, and the Customer's contracting personnel.

■ While the customer is under contract with NCUM:

- ◆ NCUM monitors the facility's daily gas usage and reviews all gas invoices for accuracy.
- ◆ NCUM assures that the customer realizes any benefits from fluctuations in the gas market while verifying that no penalties to the customer are accrued.
- ◆ The customer will be required to provide daily gas meter readings, copies of all monthly natural gas invoices, a 24-hour point of contact, and advanced 48-hour notification of the use of alternate fuels.

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NCUM Clients

The National Center for Utilities Management currently serves 165 customers from the following agencies:

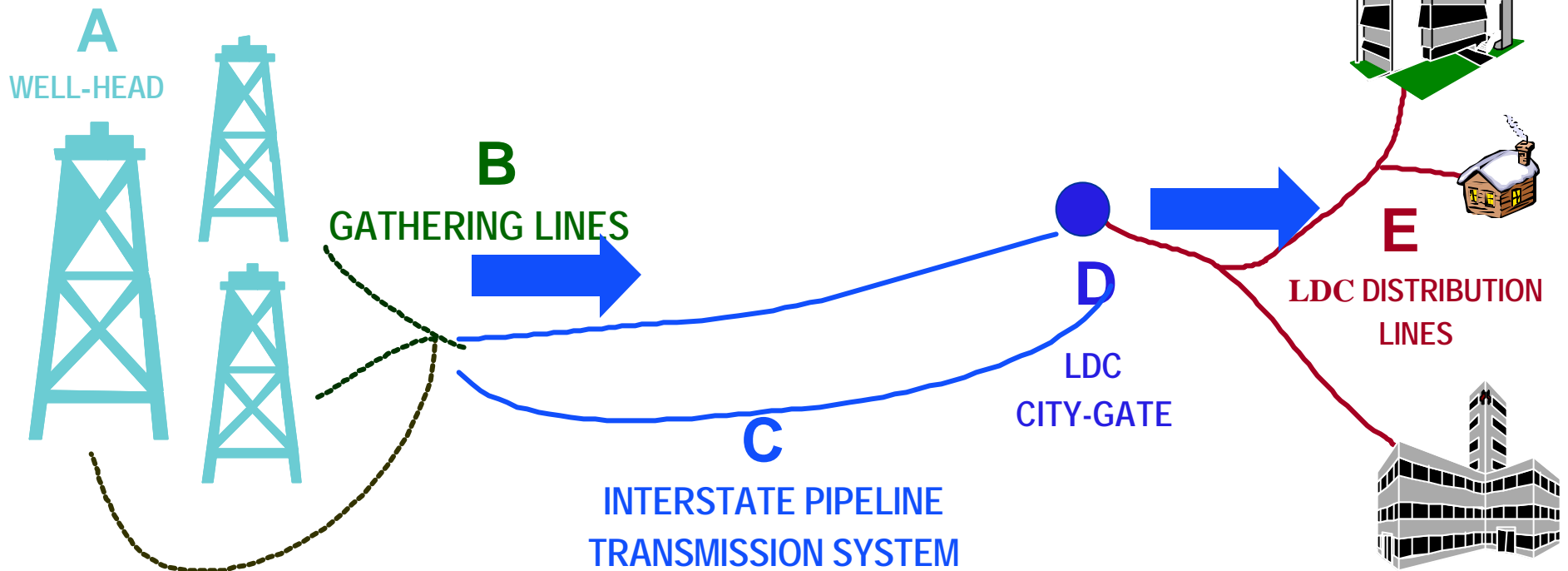
- Architect of The Capitol
- Bureau of Prisons
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Department of the Army
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Environmental Protection Agency
- General Services Administration
- Immigration & Naturalization Service
- Indian Health Services
- National Archives and Records Administration
- National Inst. of Occupational Safety & Health
- National Park Service
- Treasury
- United States Coast Guard



Contact Us:

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TYPICAL NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION SCHEME



- A. Producers sell "well-head" gas.
- B. Gas delivered to interstate pipeline via gathering lines.
- C. Interstate pipeline transports under open access rules established by FERC.
- D. Gas enters (LDC's) network via "city-gate" (the LDC's meter station on the pipeline).
- E. LDCs distribute to residential, commercial, and industrial customers.